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**Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**
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# Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

## Discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below, and through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. The Permanent Forum reaffirms the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the normative framework for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The provisions of General Assembly resolution 66/296 regarding the organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, must be given the widest and most generous interpretation possible in order to achieve the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples.

4. The Permanent Forum welcomes the work undertaken by indigenous peoples in the regional and thematic caucus preparatory meetings and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group drafting group and looks forward to the forthcoming recommendations of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the regional preparatory meetings and their respective contributions to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. All conclusions and recommendations that arise from those activities must be taken into consideration in the decision-making related to the World Conference itself. The Forum wishes to draw attention to the collective objective of ensuring constructive informal hearings,

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interactive round tables, panel discussions and the adoption of an action-oriented outcome document of the Conference.

5. The Permanent Forum expresses its gratitude to the Government of Guatemala and to the United Nations country team in Guatemala for organizing the meeting of the United Nations International Experts on Indigenous Peoples' Rights, which included the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the co-facilitators and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group, in preparation for the 2014 World Conference, which was held in Tikal, Guatemala, on 20 and 21 December 2012.

6. The Permanent Forum welcomes the confirmation of the Government of Mexico to hold a regional and thematic preparatory meeting with the participation of United Nations Member States, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum to build further consensus on the process and content of the World Conference and its related discussions. The Permanent Forum appoints Saul Vicente as a focal point to work with the Government of Mexico in the preparations for the regional preparatory meeting.

7. The Permanent Forum welcomes the interest of the Governments of Botswana and the Congo to support the rights of indigenous peoples in the region, including the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples process, and encourages other African governments to follow this good practice.

8. The Permanent Forum welcomes the preparation by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the study entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples: achievements and challenges in the Latin American countries", and encourages other regional commissions to undertake similar studies.

9. The Permanent Forum reiterates that the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples constitutes a key forum for the achievement of more effective coordination and coherence in supporting the preparations for and the participation of indigenous peoples in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and recommends stronger engagement and the participation of all agencies, programmes and funds in the work of the Inter-Agency Support Group.

10. The Permanent Forum considers that the conclusion of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, should be considered as a firm base for the identification of specific themes for the round table and panel discussions under the auspices of the General Assembly.

11. The Permanent Forum recommends to the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly the continuation of the practice, established during the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, to appoint a State representative and an indigenous peoples' representative to conduct inclusive informal consultations on his behalf, in order to build consensus on the themes of the round table and panel discussions and the contents of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples as well as to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the process.

12. The Permanent Forum further recommends to the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly that an informal interactive hearing be organized, back-to-back with, but separate from, the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. This will ensure that those representatives of indigenous peoples who are attending the Permanent Forum are also able to participate in the informal interactive hearing without the need to return to New York at a later date and incur further travel and other related expenditures.

13. The Permanent Forum notes that the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat will devote additional resources to support the preparations of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, also through the 60 United Nations information centres around the world.

14. The Permanent Forum notes the engagement of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the preparations for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and recommends that the Union organize meetings of parliamentarians at the global, regional and country levels to discuss the adoption of legislative and administrative measures affecting indigenous peoples and to encourage the participation of parliamentarians, including indigenous parliamentarians, in the World Conference and its preparatory processes. Such meetings should draw upon the positive developments from the conference facilitated by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which was held in Chiapas, Mexico, 2010 and which led to the adoption of the Chiapas Declaration.

15. The Permanent Forum invites the indigenous peoples' caucus and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group to ensure the equal and inclusive participation of indigenous women, elderly persons, young people, and persons with disabilities in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its preparatory processes.

16. The Permanent Forum encourages the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in particular the Division of Social Policy and Development and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum, to maintain regular interaction at the staff level with the Office of the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly in the interest of greater coherence, coordination and cooperation, with regard to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, each acting in accordance with their respective mandates. The Forum further requests the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to provide additional financial, logistical and human resources to the secretariat of the Permanent Forum for it to carry out its responsibilities in this regard.

17. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation that indigenous peoples have equal participation in the drafting of all documents that emerge from the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples process, including any outcome document.

18. The Permanent Forum takes note of the note by the Secretariat transmitting the study on the rights of indigenous peoples and truth commissions and other truth-seeking mechanisms on the American continent (E/C.19/2013/13), its conclusions and recommendations. The Forum recommends that States take steps to establish truth commissions in situations of reported human rights violations against indigenous peoples. The Forum underlines that the full and effective participation of affected indigenous peoples is a precondition for the establishment and work of truth commissions.

19. Relevant United Nations agencies dealing with indigenous peoples' issues should take action on the inclusion of indigenous persons with disabilities in all their activities, make their websites accessible to persons with disabilities, promote the increased participation of indigenous persons with disabilities in their annual sessions and consider having expert sessions on indigenous persons with disabilities.

20. The Forum recommends that all Member States and inter-governmental agencies establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that efficient programming is developed in order for the positive transformation of social problems stemming from the weak and inadequate implementation of articles 7, 17, 21 and 22 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This programming has to be targeted at indigenous youth for fundamental change.